



Sunday 16th January 2022

WELCOME to the United Parish. We hope that you feel at home in our church family. It is our prayer that you will know the love that God has for you today as we join together in praise, hearing God speak to us, sending us out equipped for the week ahead. **Please continue to book for services via website.**

Sunday 16th January 2022

10.00am Christ Church
11.30am St John's

Service of Celebration for our
Compassion Ministries

Sunday 23rd January 2022

10.00am Christ Church
Morning Prayer

11.30am St John's
Morning Praise &
Commissioning Service

For Your Attention

Next Sunday

On **Sunday 23rd January 2022**, Michael Ogilby will be commissioned as a Diocesan Reader at our 11.30am service in St John's. Please join us as we celebrate and support Michael & Lorraine. Peter Kirch from St Brigid's, Mallusk Parish will also be commissioned at the same service. Bishop George will be with us and preaching.

Parish Weekend 18th-20th March 2022

See **Page 6** for more details about our Parish Weekend.

Welcome Night!

Friday 4th February at 7.00pm in St John's Hall- a welcome night to the United Family! During the past few years, we are very aware that many people have joined us. We would like to invite you to this night for some food, to get to know various leaders within our church family, to meet each other and hear about what we provide as a church. For catering purposes please register on the following link:

<https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/events/rlraakpn>

Giving

Recently we have seen many donate to church funds and other ministries within the Church using, standing order, and card payments rather than by FWO envelope. We are taking this a stage further by introducing a **QR Code**. If you wish to donate at any time, please scan the code with your camera phone and it will take you to our giving portal.



Pastoring

Remember our Prayer Line (phone or text)

07519 805789. Simply text your request and a small team will commit to pray over the following week.

Please pray for:

Alyson Stanford, Achie Blair, Hilary Smylie, Cecil Millar, Lou & Bertie Cornett's daughter Lorraine, Wesley Lamont, Ed Rodgers, Audra Irvine, Ed Barton & Maisie Moore, David Livingston and Kate Winton

Would you like to help with Pastoral Visiting?

We have over 300 families in our church family. Pray and seek if God is calling you to this important ministry and then have a chat with Revd Jonny.

Meals Ministry

This ministry exists to support individuals & families who have either been discharged from hospital or going through treatment. A meal is delivered as regularly as is necessary just to provide some relief. If you or a friend would value this support, please let Revd Jonny know so this can be organised. If you would like to help with the meal's ministry, please contact Revd Jonny.

Going deeper

Early Communion restarts – 30th January

We plan to start our Sunday early morning Holy Communion Services in Christ Church again on the **last Sunday** of every month at 8.30am. Starting **Sunday 30th January**. Booking is via the website.

Small groups are back!

Our small groups are back this week. The next few weeks will be by zoom with the hope that early February it will be back to physical meetings. We have 8 groups who meet at various times on a regular basis. It's so important to study God's word together and have the support of each other. More details can be found on our website using the following link: <https://theunitedparish.org.uk/ministries/growing-disciples/small-groups/>

Services & Teaching Online

If you missed any of our services or teaching during 2021, they are on our website by clicking on the following link:

<https://theunitedparish.org.uk/sermon-archive/>

They are a wonderful way of catching up and reflecting on God's word and teaching.

Wednesday Morning Bible Studies

Starting back again this **Wednesday (19th)** at 10:45-11:45am in St John's Church. George Colclough will be leading the study for the first 3 weeks.

New Teaching Series on Sundays

In **February** Revd Jonny and the rest of the teaching team will be looking at Paul's Letter to the Ephesian. This will help us understand who we are as church and our response as Christians.

Shaping a new generation

Winter Madness!

Join us for an evening on the 19th of February at 7.30pm in St Annes Cathedral Belfast. Worship and fellowship as we get excited for Summer Madness 2022 (1-5th July). The event is free – the Speaker is Esther Swaffield-Bray, and Shane Bell is leading worship. Please speak to Dianne to reserve your ticket ...and feel free to invite a friend!

Our Youth & Children's programmes start back

Sunday Schools Both churches start back this Sunday (16th January)

St John's Teen Bible study recommences this Sunday (16th). Meeting at St John's at 11.30am and going across to GBYFC for an hour.

Youth Fellowship restarts this Sunday night @ St John's 6.30pm-8.00pm.

Boys' Brigade Sections meet again this week at the normal times in St John's.

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

Friday Fellowship!

Meeting Friday 28th January in St John's at 11.00am. Great opportunity to catch up with friends over a cuppa and enjoy a time of fellowship together. Contact Sophie on 07745 828268 if you need help with transport.

Heating & Lighting Scheme

Together Ballyclare continues to exist in partnership with our parish to support those in financial need within our community. Many families are finding it difficult to manage the increasing costs of heating and lighting. A fund has been made available to support this. If you know of someone who needs help, please share this contact telephone number. An assessment will be done of their need and help will be provided confidentially. **Telephone 07538 556779**

Parish Weekend- 18th -20th March 2022!

It's not that far away and thank goodness if everything goes according to plan, we will have our weekend in March as we had to postpone it from 2021 due to Covid. The venue as before is the Kilbroney Centre in Rostrevor and the theme will be "Unlocking"

We are so blessed to have Bishop Ken Clarke leading our sessions. Victoria Jackson and Christina Bailie looking after our Children & Youth. John & Hannah McGrath will lead worship.

Don't worry if you can't join us for the full weekend – consider joining us for the Saturday, and if you would prefer not to stay at the centre there are plenty of B&Bs in the area.

The costs are £70 per adult, £50 per child (Pre- schoolchildren free). Subsidised places for large families. **Cost will not be an issue for those who wish to attend.**

For further information, contact Revd Jonny, Dianne, or office.

Reserve through ChurchSuite using the following link:

<https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/events/exlb5rt0>

Partnering

Newtownabbey Foodbank - no donations please

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Foodbank. Due to logistics issues at the warehouse in Newtownabbey they cannot accept any more donations at this time. We will give an update in early February. Further information on the Foodbank can be obtained from Sandra Vaughan our Foodbank Co-ordinator on 07999 580548

Baby Basics

We currently need Moses baskets, pram & cot blankets, baby towels and small toys for up to 12 months and hand-knitted blankets.

CMS Ireland

It is always good to get an update from our partnership link in Kenya. Hard copies of the December newsletter are available in both Christ Church & St Johns: alternatively visit the news section on our website or click the following link:

<https://theunitedparish.org.uk/cmsi-december-update/>

A few job vacancies are also available working for CMSi- full details can be found using the link:

<https://www.cmsireland.org/job-opportunities>

Release International

Please pray for Christians in Afghanistan. Persecution has increased with reports of executions, beatings, harassment, evictions and desecration of houses of worship. There are also reports of hunger increasing due to drought, Covid 19 is spreading and there is a shortage of healthcare workers as many have fled. The latest news can be found on the Release website:

<https://releaseinternational.org/>

OUR VALUES

Jesus at the centre

Offering a **pastoral** heart

Going **deeper** with God

Shaping a new generation

Reaching out and welcoming in

Partnering in the Gospel

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